

To Mrs. Foster

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Boston, July 28, 1859.

My Dear Friend:

217 It was my wish and intention to have had a private interview with you at our Transigian celebration on the 4th inst., in order to talk over various matters; but ~~I had~~ no opportunity ~~to do so~~ ^{fairly} presented itself. In the forenoon, Mr. Phillips was busily engaged in conversing with you, at great length; in the afternoon, though I looked for ^{you} through the audience, I did not see you, and was therefore unable to execute my purpose ^{see at it. & convention,} i.e. conversation,

I have been waiting & hoping to hear ~~from~~ ^{you in writing,} ~~you in writing,~~ ^{as I think I was entitled to have} from you in writing; but as you, ~~wish~~ take it for granted you do not mean to break it until you first hear from me. So I will not wait any longer.

I have said that I think I was entitled to hear from you, because I understand that you ~~feel~~ ^{felt} grievously wounded in consequence of what fell from my lips at the Convention; and because you ~~left~~ ^{left} ~~from~~ my house, (when I was coming down stairs to greet you as usual) in a manner that indicated a highly ~~excited~~ ^{flamed} state of mind, - refusing ^{gently} as you did to ~~see~~ ^{my very page as} take me by the hand, or even to see me. Your "sober second thought," I was confident, would lead you to see that you had

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acted in a manner not ~~sister~~ ~~justified~~ compatible
with true self-respect, or personal fidelity to
~~friendship~~. Why did you thus shun me? If you
had any grievance to complain of, why did you
not tell me of it to my face? For, remember, you
have neither said nor written a single word to me,
whence I could even surmise that your feelings
were wounded. Why, ^{they have made} do you make the reve-
lution to others, and not to me? Why should I be
left to obtain through others, what you ought to
have frankly ^{& truly} communicated to me? Is this
becoming an old friend? I think it was not.

It seems to me that your duty ~~was~~ was
when you called that money at my house for
Allen, plainly to say in substance - "I was not
able to be at the closing close of meeting of the Con-
vention last evening; but my husband, ~~on~~ on
~~conf~~ returning from it, gave me such an
account of your remarks, in regard to myself,
as to excite my grief and astonishment. But,
inasmuch as he may have misinterpreted or
misunderstood you, though ~~the~~ ^{and} intent of the
~~deposition~~, I desire to know what you did say,
or intended to be understood as saying; for
I cannot believe that ^{you} could intentionally say
or do aught to impeach my integrity of ~~those~~
~~actions~~, in the prosecution of the anti-slavery
cause." Had you taken this course, an expla-
nation might have been made on the spot, to the
removal of all those painful feelings which
have followed as a consequence of the omis-
sion. Oct 8108

Now, as you charge me with nothing,
face to face or by letter, what can I plead?

I hear that you believe or suppose
that I attributed to your intentional dishonesty
in the manner of procuring money of prominent
members of the Republican party! Such a
thought never entered my mind. It is true that
~~I felt the course pursued by you~~ I endeavored
to show the inconsistency and practical unright-
ful^{ness} ^{as it seemed to me} of your cause — without calling you by name,
however; ~~especially your motives,~~ but I neither
impeached, nor meant to impeach, the integrity of your
personal integrity. God forbid! I believe you
to have ^{been} ^{but} always & activated by the highest and purest
motives, however lucky a judgment or consist-
ency. Of all the women who have appeared upon
the historic stage, I have always regarded you
as fearless — the moral lion of the world
— and so have expressed myself to friends, far
and near, again and again. My admiration
of your character and moral heroism, of your
self-sacrificing spirit and exhaustless philan-
thropy, has been limited by nothing but the power of
speech to express it. Our friendship has been
intimate and unbroken for more than a quarter of
a century; and no one out of my family has been
nearer or dearer to me than yourself. My heart
has grown liquid with emotion as I have seen
your self-denial, courage, perseverance, and
in making yourself a living sacrifice upon the
altar of bleeding humanity. How, then, was it
possible for me to accuse you of intentional

wrong drift? Or how was it possible for you so readily to come to the conclusion that that was what I did, and intended to do?